

State Library of North Carolina

UPDATE

<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us>

March 2005

Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA)

Mid-Year Planning Grants

Response to the first mid-year application cycle for LSTA planning grants offered in fall 2004 exceeded expectations: eleven libraries applied by the November 10, 2004 deadline. This was the first time that public and academic libraries could apply for the planning grants outside the usual grant calendar—the normal due date is in February for projects implemented in the following fiscal year. The implementation period for the mid-year grant projects has been shortened from 12 to 7 months, but this cycle allows a library to take advantage of unexpected situations or new opportunities without having to wait a full year to apply.

Nine of the mid-year applications were awarded funding for a total of \$132,310. Three libraries received funding to help them carry out preliminary activities and information gathering to prepare them to apply for specific LSTA project grants (e.g., NC ECHO Digitization); four libraries received grants to allow them to hire a consultant for general planning (one library will undertake strategic/long-range planning and three will be involved in space needs or building studies); and two libraries received support to engage a consultant to develop a technology plan. The list of planning grants awarded in this cycle is available on the State Library web site at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/AwardsListMid04-05.htm>>

Monitoring Multiyear Grants

In June 2004, Joyner Library at East Carolina University (ECU) received the first NC ECHO Heritage Partners Grant for “Digitizing Eastern North Carolina History, Fiction and Artifacts for Educators.” Heritage Partners grants support libraries with substantial experience in digitization that are capable of leading a large, multiyear project with partner institutions in creating an online resource on a topic of significant statewide interest.

Special guidelines developed for multiyear LSTA grants require a mid-year site visit. The visit is a monitoring component for multiyear grants conducted each year of the grant to determine whether or not the project is being implemented as proposed, is meeting designated milestones, or is encountering any significant problems. A successful outcome to the mid-year visit results in the library receiving approval to apply for a continuation of grant funding for the next year.

Over the course of a day and a half (January 31st and February 1st), a monitoring team visited ECU and each partner institution participating in the project. The ten members of the team included three NC ECHO staff, two State Library staff, two members of the LSTA Advisory Committee, and three members of the NC ECHO Advisory Committee. On Day 1 the team visited three partners: the Country Doctor Museum in Kenly, the Tobacco Farm Life Museum in Kenly, and Historic Hope Plantation in Windsor. Day 2 included time spent with Joyner Library staff and College of Education representatives (as partners in the project), and then a session attended by all the partners which included a presentation by ECU staff on the project as a whole.

The monitoring team recommended that ECU/Joyner and partners prepare a proposal for the second year of the project. ECU will be in a priority category to receive a second year of funding when the State Library and LSTA Advisory Committee consider all proposals for 2005-06 LSTA grants.

For additional information, contact Penny Hornsby by e-mail at <phornsby@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by phone at 919-807-7420.

Staff Update

After more than 11 years of service, State Librarian Sandra Cooper has resigned. A national recruitment effort will be initiated to name a successor.

Revolutionary War Pension Microfilm Now Available

One of the richest sources for genealogical and historical information on the Revolutionary era, the 2670 reels of this National Archives and Records Administration microfilm provide the 80,000 files of Revolutionary pension and bounty-land warrant applications in their entirety. No longer will researchers in North Carolina have to drive to Washington (DC), East Point (GA) or Richmond (VA) to use this film. No longer must they wait for months to receive photocopies ordered from the National Archives to arrive. This important collection is now available at the State Library. Although HeritageQuest (a subscription database available for remote access to state employees with SLNC library cards and available through some public libraries) now offers the option to "Search Revolutionary War," its source is NARA's more limited *Selected Records* from these application files.

Genealogical Services staff launched a vigorous campaign to spread the word about this tremendous collection. Reference and Genealogy staff are witnessing steady in-house use and an increase in telephone inquiries about this valuable resource. There has been popular response to the announcement that this microfilm is now available for research both in-person and through interlibrary loan.

In-Person: The microfilm is available in the State Library Information Center on the First Floor of the Archives and History/State Library Building, Monday-Friday (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. On Saturdays (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.; 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.), staff will retrieve it for use in the Genealogical Services Section.

Interlibrary Loan: The borrowing library should follow regular procedures for completing an ILL request on an OCLC work form (OCLC number: 31327622). The request must include the full name (first and last) of the ancestor in question in the borrowing notes field.

As with all titles in the State Library's genealogical microfilm collection, the limit is six reels per request for a loan period of one month. There will be no renewals or reserves of this microfilm series. If a reel is in unavailable, the State Library will respond with the conditional message that a specific reel is out on loan and that a second request may be sent after the specified due date.

For additional information, contact Pam Toms by e-mail at <pamtoms@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by phone at 919-807-7460.

Library Communications

National Recognition for North Carolina Libraries

Every participant at the ALA midwinter conference in Boston received PLA's campaign update publication that included a full page spread about North Carolina's Smartest Card campaign. Several colorful photos including samples of the promotional materials and photos from libraries across the state accompanied an article detailing campaign highlights. Pam Jaskot, Consultant for Library Communications, was interviewed at the conference about the campaign. She serves as a member of the PLA @your library task force.



New Listserv

The State Library is hosting a new list serv to provide library staff the opportunity to share information on public relations and marketing. NC.PRtalk can help find answers to such questions as:

Who knows a good graphic designer?

Any good ideas for hosting a groundbreaking ceremony?

I want to host a book group - how do I get started and how can I publicize it?

NC.PRtalk will also be used to distribute updates about exciting marketing and public relations projects in libraries across the state and at the State Library. So subscribe today at: <<http://listmail.ncdcr.gov/mailman/listinfo/nc.prtalk>>. For additional information, contact Pam Jaskot by e-mail at <pjaskot@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by phone at 919-807-7421.

Career Enrichment Grants

This 2004-2005 pilot project continues to have a positive impact on North Carolina libraries. The State Library received 68 applications for the 2005 ALA Conference in Chicago. Funds totaling \$27,685 were awarded to 29 applicants, all of whom will be attending ALA for the first time.

Pending approval by the LSTA Advisory Committee, this program will be offered again in 2005-2006. A proposal has been submitted to include more conferences and increase the number of awards that will be available. Stay tuned for more details.

For additional information, contact Raye Oldham by e-mail at <roldham@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by phone at 919-807-7423.

Youth Services

2005 Statewide Summer Reading Programs

In the fall of 2004, youth services librarians were excited as they began to receive their copy of the manuals for "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds" and the related teen program, "Joust Read", that Youth Services Consultant, Jim Rosinia, ordered for them. Shortly after these 435 manuals began arriving at each library in the state, the youth services librarians began to choose and order program materials—posters of various sizes, bookmarks, stickers, reading records, and incentives—from Highsmith/Upstart. Purchase of these items was supported with vouchers issued by the State Library. This month, those youth services librarians will begin to receive the items they ordered as they make final preparations for the 2005 Summer Reading Programs.



To help them with their preparations, Rosinia and the 2005 Summer Reading Committee are conducting three Summer Reading workshops - one more than in past years in an attempt to reach more of the state. 155 librarians were registered to

attend a workshop in Raleigh on March 2nd; 80 registered to attend a workshop in Charlotte on March 10th; and 60 are expected to attend a workshop on March 23rd. Each workshop will be different in structure and content, but each will feature appearances by professional performers, ideas for improving program design and delivery, and opportunities to network with colleagues.

Rosinia has been very pleased with the positive comments he has received from youth services librarians about the quality of the material and the wide selection of program materials that are available. He has also received suggestions and requests for future programs that he'll take with him to the upcoming annual meeting of the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), which will be held in beautiful Bismarck, ND, in April.

The themes for a pet-related program for the summer of 2006 were selected at the annual CSLP last year: "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" for younger children and "Creature Features" for teens. At the upcoming annual meeting, mystery-related themes will be finalized for the

2007 programs and a concept selected for 2008. Knowing upcoming themes years in advance helps youth services librarians as they develop their collections and began to plan programs.

Public Library Quiz Bowl

Students from more than 240 public high schools, private high schools, and home schools across the state participated in local competitions between December 2004 and mid-February 2005. The winners of those competitions will compete in eight District competitions on March 19th and the victors of those 8 matches will advance to the State Finals to be held on Saturday, April 23rd. As in years past, the Finals will be held at the WUNC-TV studios in Research Triangle Park and will, once again, be broadcast live from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. This year's Finals will be judged by Robert Burgin, Professor at NC Central University; Kevin Cherry, Instructor at East Carolina University; and Patrick S. Wooten, NC Attorney General's Office. The success of all Quiz Bowl competitions depends on the quality of questions asked and, using an online form, you, too, can contribute questions to the database. Just go to <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/Forms/qbowl.htm>> and fill in the form.



Counting On Libraries

The final *Statistical Report of North Carolina Public Libraries, July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004* is now available on the State Library web site at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ld/plstats0304/plstats0304.htm>>. The data are available in two formats: PDF files (requiring Adobe Reader to view) and Excel spreadsheets.

By March 15th, the 2003-2004 statistics should also be available through Bibliostat Connect (<http://connect.informata.com/>). Bibliostat Connect provides access to the latest North Carolina data, as well as the latest national data from the Public Library Association's Public Library Data Service (PLDS) and the National Center for Education Statistics' Federal State Cooperative System for Public Library Data (FSCS). Bibliostat Connect requires an ID and password combination for access. The State Library supports access to this resource for all of North Carolina's public libraries.

For additional information, contact Timothy Owens by e-mail at <towens@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by phone at 919-807-7424.

NC LIVE

New Resources

The NC LIVE Librarians Council announced that the following materials are now available, or soon will be, via NC LIVE. Most of these items were available as one-time purchases (rather than annual subscriptions), and the majority of the funding came from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) administered by the State Library. The EBSCO resources and the addition of the *Raleigh News & Observer* are exceptions as they are made available through annual licenses purchased with state funds.

- 12 Gale titles that are included in the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's NC WiseOwl, such as *Africa: An Encyclopedia for Students*; *Arts and Humanities Through the Eras*; *College Blue Book*; *Encyclopedia of Religion*; and *Junior Worldmark Encyclopedia of Foods & Recipes*
- 13 additional Gale titles, such as *The African American Almanac*; *Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco: Learning About Addictive Behavior*; *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*; *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*; *Fashion, Costume, and Culture: Clothing, Headwear, Body Decorations, and Footwear through the Ages*; and *Pollution A to Z*
- *CQ (Congressional Quarterly) Researcher and CQ Weekly* (backfiles to present)
- 1,380 selected NetLibrary titles from the IT Center, with publication dates of 2002 through present
- *Communication and Mass Media Complete (CMMC)* and *American Humanities Index (AHI)* from EBSCO
- *Raleigh News and Observer* (Full Text) has been added to the North Carolina Newsstand database from ProQuest

Training

A subcommittee of the NC LIVE TRAC (Training Advisory Committee) met on Tuesday, March 8th, with selected staff from the UNC Health Sciences Library to discuss the details of a pilot project to develop an online NC LIVE training course. Staff from the UNC Health Sciences Library designed and delivered the original in-person sessions of the NC LIVE Medical & Health Sciences Resources workshop and they bring experience

in creating online courses to the project. Development of online training is not intended to replace in-person workshops but to be an alternative and/or supplement.

The pilot project will focus on content from the NC LIVE Medical & Health Sciences Resources workshop. The material will be divided into modules with hands-on activities. In addition to live delivery of the modules, each portion will be archived and made available to the entire NC LIVE community. This project will begin in the next few months, with completion of one module and a live test with selected library staff to occur by June 2005. Further development of the remaining modules and open registration for the course will occur during 2005-2006.



Virtual Reference

Jeffrey Pomerantz from the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill was the primary investigator for a formal evaluation of NCKnows, the statewide virtual reference pilot project that began offering service in February 2004. To date, over 50 public and academic libraries in North Carolina offer NCKnows to their patrons. About half of those libraries also provide staff who answer the reference questions.

The evaluation considered (1) NCKnows patrons, (2) the individual libraries participating in NCKnows, and (3) the entire NCKnows collaborative effort.

In the final report, Dr. Pomerantz stated: "From each of these perspectives, the NCKnows project has been a success: (1) NCKnows patrons are very satisfied with the information that is provided to them and they have used this information to meet needs in their work, school, and personal lives; (2) the librarians participating in NCKnows have found the impact of staffing the service to be less than expected, and many have found it to be an interesting challenge; and (3) the NCKnows service is receiving a consistently increasing number of questions, from a consistently broad and diverse base of patrons."

To learn more about NCKnows, contact Jeanne Crisp by e-mail at <jcrisp@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by phone at 919-807-7415.